

# Typical La Nina Pattern this Week/Outlook

## National Weather Service Raleigh, NC

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Figure 1 below is the Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for this week.

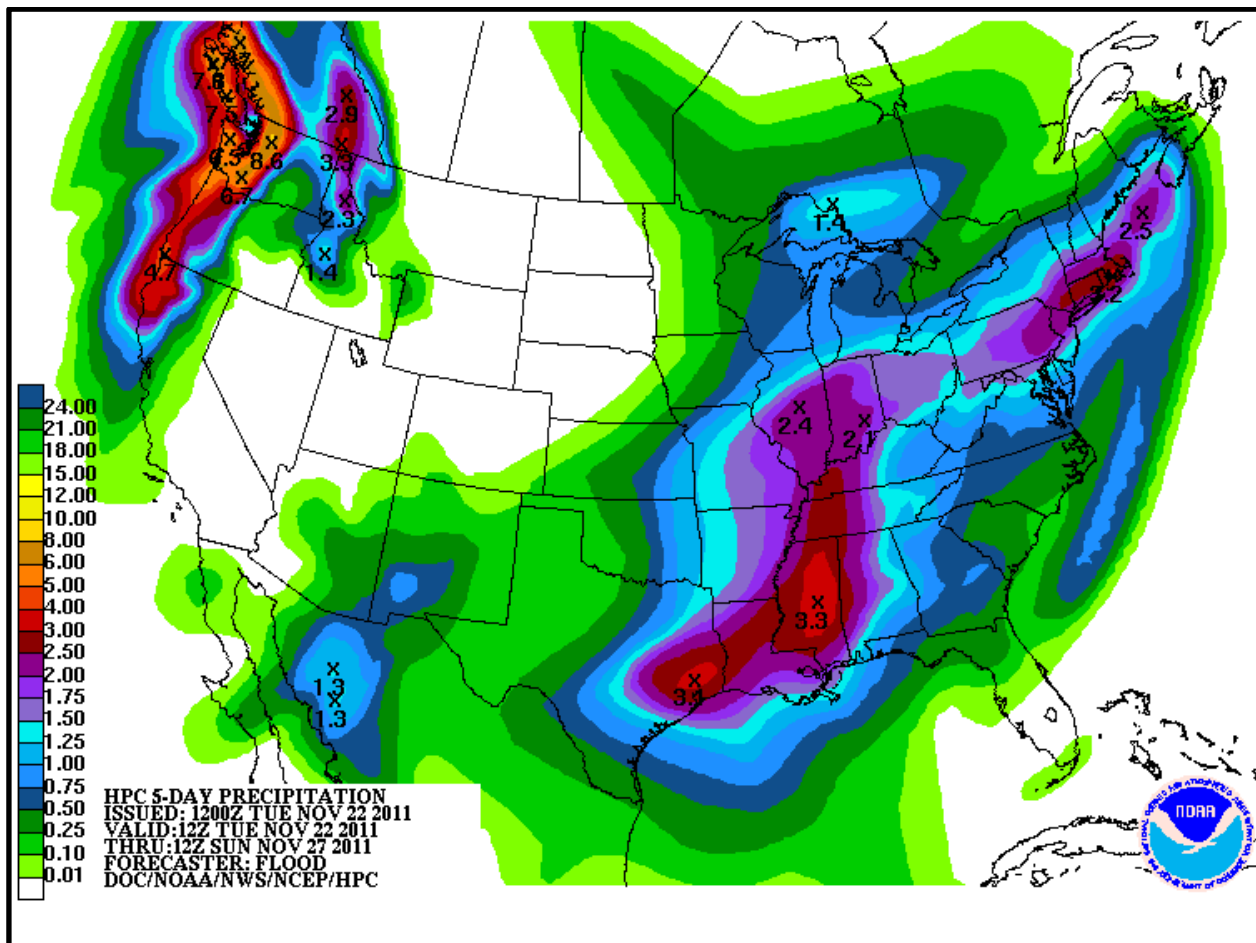


Figure 1

Note the main rainfall is forecast through the Ohio Valley/along and west of the Appalachians and into the NE US. Note the lack of QPF east of the Mountains in NC/VA. Reason, the current storm track is running SW to NE from Oklahoma through the Ohio Valley and into New England. Unless a secondary wave forms along the front as it pushes east of the Appalachians Wednesday, we will lack widespread moderate to heavy rain like we experienced last week.

The Temperature outlook for Thanksgiving into the weekend is for increased odds of ABOVE NORMAL, consistent with the current La Nina like pattern with the continued forecast for a positive Arctic Oscillation (AO) and North Atlantic Oscillation (NAO). (See figures 2, 3 and 4 below).

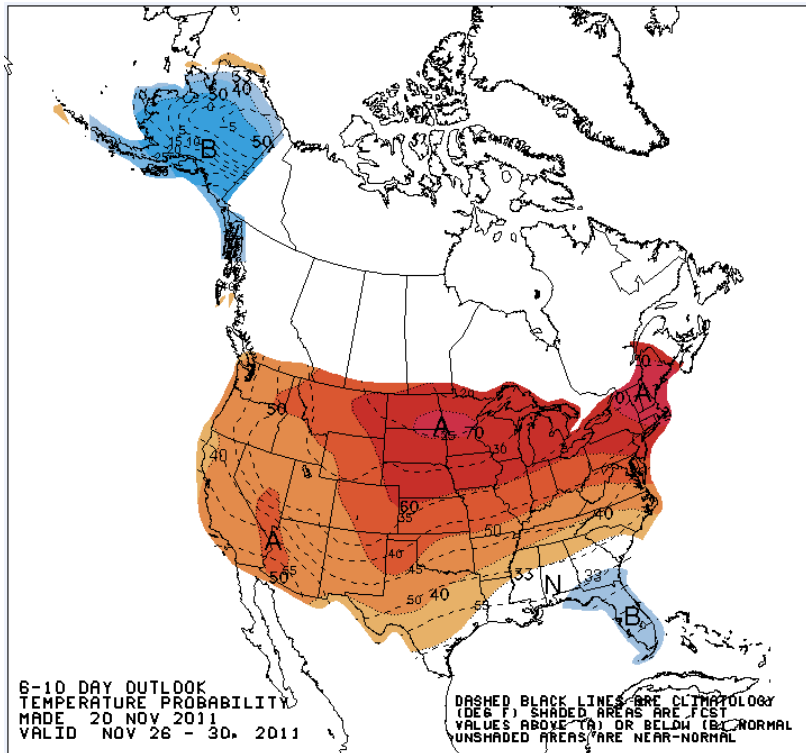


Figure 2

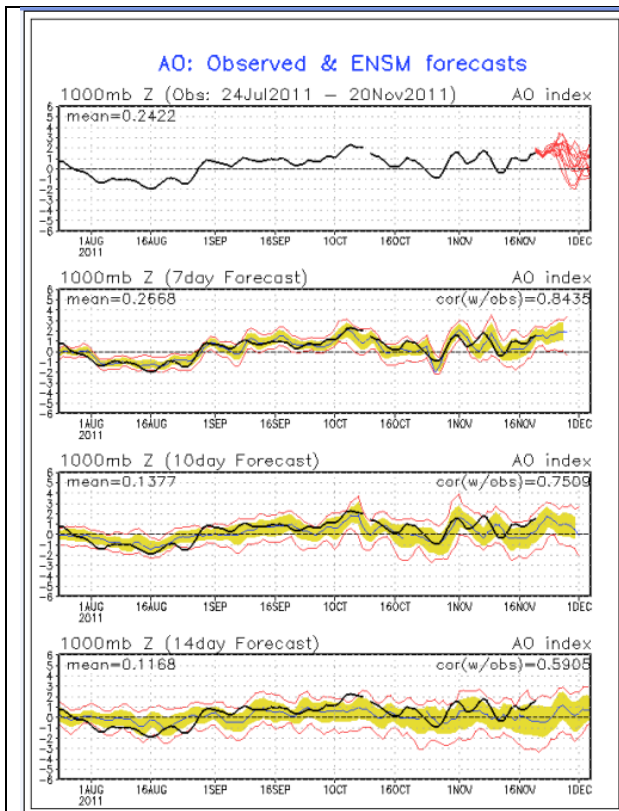


Figure 3

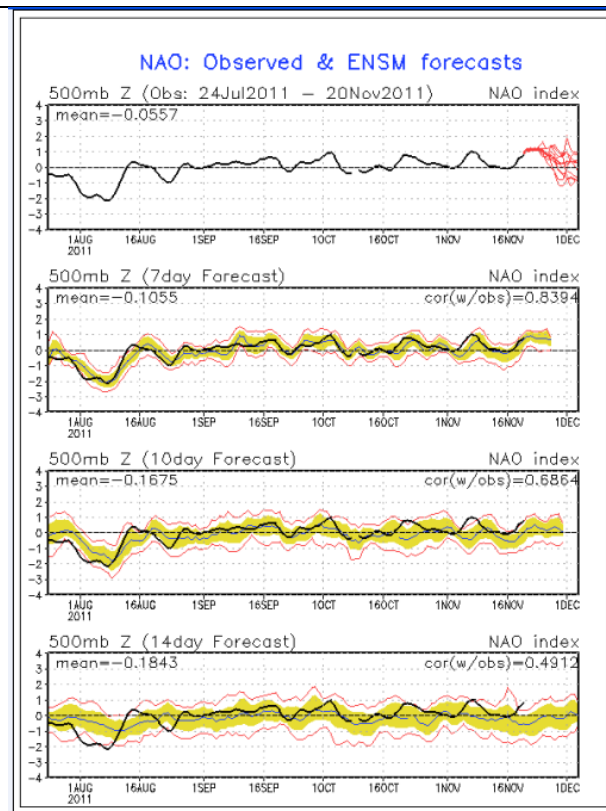


Figure 4

When will the NAO and AO possibly change phase? These forecast oscillations are not reliable beyond 2-3 weeks. The outlook from CPC for December 2011 is for equal chances of below, near, and above normal Temperatures (Figure 5). A change to much colder over the eastern United States will not occur until the current pattern changes.

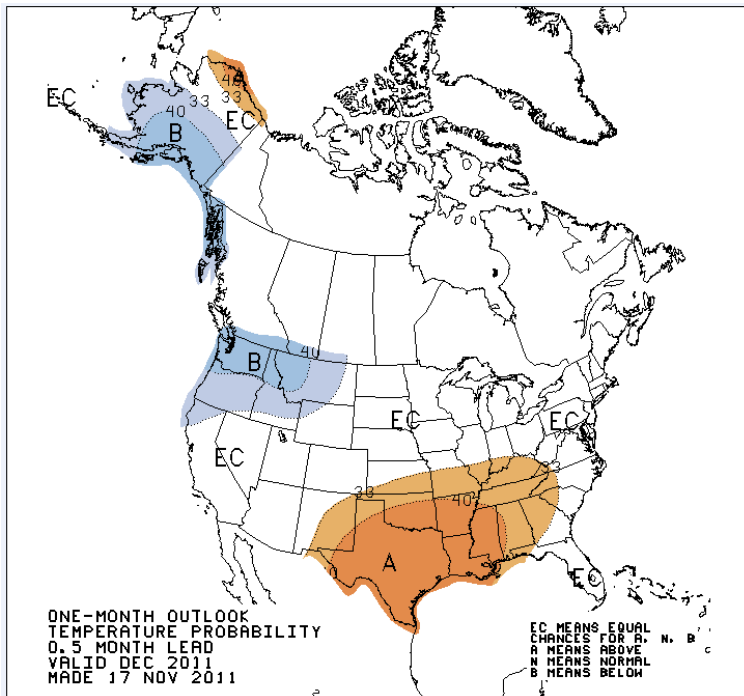


Figure 5

The current La Nina conditions are expected to peak this winter (just like last winter). Therefore... we (NC) will continue to have an increased odds of above normal Temperatures and below normal Precipitation in the overall D-F 3 month period. (Figures 6-7). However, remember La Nina typically brings surprises with cut off lows (remember January 2000's blizzard). These events become more likely for us when the AO and NAO are negative or strongly negative. If and when we see signs of any change to our current pattern, we will let you know!

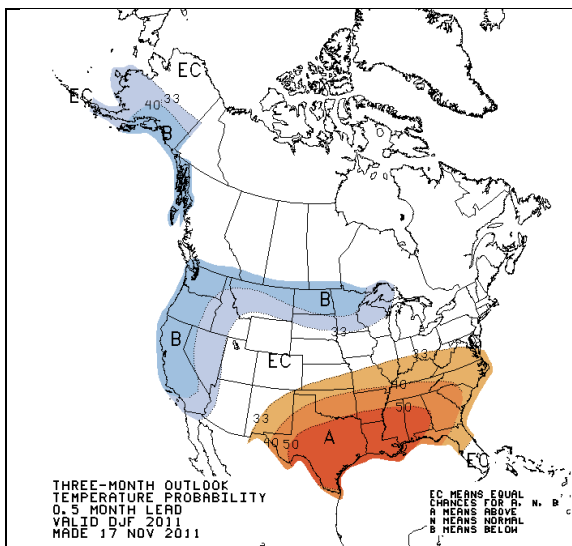


Figure 6

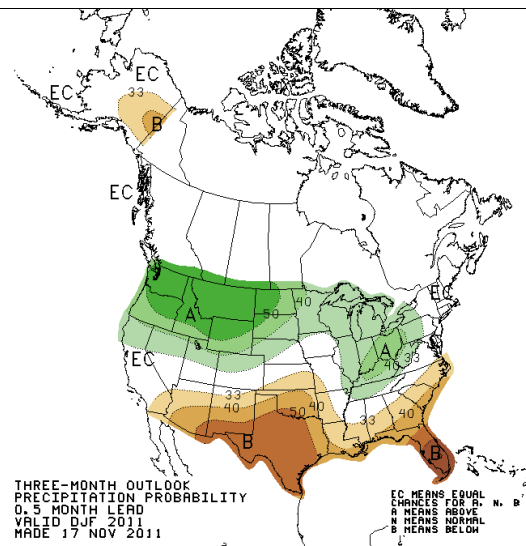


Figure 7